P.O. Box 4031
Allentown PA 18105

PRESS RELEASE

September 9, 1978

For immediate release.

Subject: Gay Rights March & Rally
Also, showing a film- "Word is Out"

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Lehigh Valley Citizens Concerned for a Better Community, a gay support organization for their Autumn Gay Intiative on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Highlights of the day include a parade of gay rights supporters on Hamilton Mall from Tenth to Fifth Streets at Noon, a rally featuring speakers in support of gay persons at 1:30 in Union Terrace Park Amphitheater, and showings of a film, "Word is Out" at 8:30 A.M., 3:30 and 6:30 P.M., at the Afro-American Cultural Center on Sixth and Chew Streets. The day's events are co-sponsored by LE-HI-HO, the Bethlehem based gay organization and the Bethlehem Chapter of N.O.W.

The film, which the public is invited to attend, is the main event of the day according to Joseph W. Burns, Co-Chairperson of Citizens Concerned for a Better Community. "We are presenting 'Word is Out' because of our concern for the quality of information on gay lifestyles which is available in the Lehigh Valley," said Burns.

"Word is Out" is based on extensive interviews with 26 gay women and men from all over the country, a potpouri of young and old, black and white, open and closeted gays speaking candidly about their experiences in being gay. Favorably reviewed by such publications as the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, Newsweek and Cue magazines, reviewers have found the film "informative", "funny", and "moving", and especially recommended for non-gay people.

Tickets for the film are available from members of C.C.B.C and may be purchased from them at the C.C.B.C. booth on Super Sunday, between 9th and 10th Streets. Requested donations for the film are $2 before the showings, and $3.00 at the door. Tickets are also available at So Eat Already, Godfrey Daniel's, Milly's in Easton, and from members of N.O.W. Complimentary tickets have been sent to local legislators, including the Mayor and members of Allentown City Council.

Speakers for the rally at Union Terrace will include George Lakey, Professor of Peace Studies at the University of Pennsylvania and member of the Friends (Quaker) Committee on Lesbian, Gay Concerns; Naomi Berman, candidate for Lieutenant-Governor on the Socialist Workers ticket; representatives of the National Gay Task Force, the Pennsylvania Council on Sexual Minorities, the Pennsyl-

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vania Gay Support Network, and local gay leaders; and representatives of other local organizations which support gay rights.

According to C.C.B.C.'s Burns, over 100 persons are expected to participate in the March and Rally, several hundred are expected to be viewing the film.

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LGBT History Project
of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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Archives & Special Collections

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Title: *Citizens Concerned for a Better Community (CCBC) Press Release*

Date: September 9, 1978

Location: LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

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